

OCT 1979

# THE ROCKFINDER



FREDERICK C. NIEBAUER  
174 E. Cleveland Road  
South Bend, Indiana 46637



**FIRST CLASS MAIL**



MICHIANA ROCK AND GEM CLUB, INC.  
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| Membership... Junior | Betty & Jessee Jordan       | 16705 Eisenhower, Mishawaka, Ind.     | 46544 |
| Activities...        | Joe Charles                 | 20863 New Road, North Liberty, Ind.   | 46554 |

THE MICHIANA ROCK AND GEM CLUB, INC., a non-profit organization, is affiliated with the MIDWEST FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL & GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES and with the AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MINERALOGICAL SOCIETIES.

REGULAR MEETINGS

|                             |                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| TIME: 2:00 P.M.             | PLACE: Nature Center     |
| Fourth Sunday of Each Month | Rum Village Park         |
| June - Field Trip Meeting   | 2626 So. Gertrude Street |
| July - No Meeting           | South Bend, Indiana      |
| August - Annual Picnic      |                          |

DUES

Individual - \$3.00 per year    Family - \$5.00 per year    Junior - \$0.50 per year.

ROCKFINDER STAFF

|                |                |  |       |
|----------------|----------------|--|-------|
| Editor.....    | Fred Niebauer  | 174 E. Cleveland Rd., South Bend, Ind. | 46637 |
| Asst. Editor.. | Sherry Russell | 27911 North Street, No. Liberty, Ind.  | 46554 |
| Staff Members. | Club Members   |  |       |

All contributions for publication should be in the hands of the editor by the 5th of each month of publication.  
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# THE ROCKFINDER

Volume 19  
Published by Michiana Rock and Gem Club, Inc.

Number 8

October 1979  
South Bend, Indiana

## Regular Meeting:

October 28, 1979

Time: Doors Open 1:30 PM, EST  
Meeting 2:00 PM, EST

Place: Nature Center  
Rum Village Park  
2626 South Gertrude Street  
South Bend, Indiana

Program: Business Meeting

Harriet George is going to tell us how to prepare a show display. This is a chance for us to get some pointers from an expert.

## Hospitality:

Clyde & Alice Ellis  
Fred & Adaline Niebauer  
Betty Walls

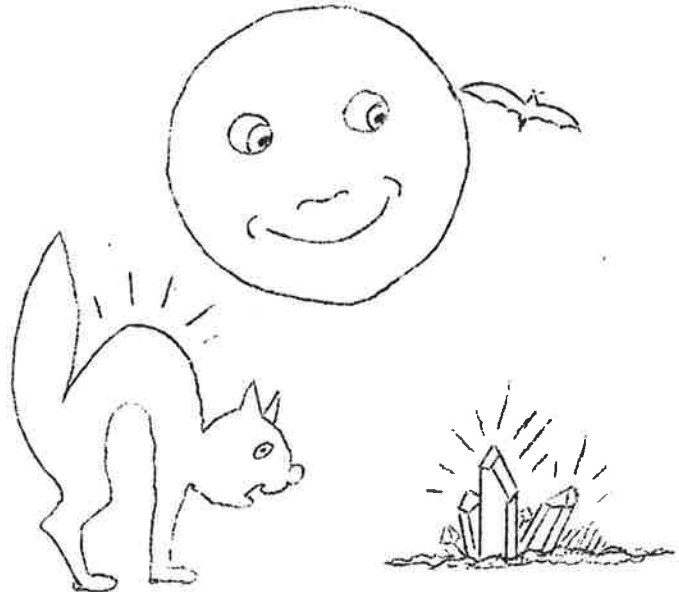
## Educational Meetings:

Time: 7:30 PM, EST

Place: Newman Recreational Center  
727 South Eddy Street  
South Bend, Indiana

Program: Friday, Oct. 26, 1979  
How to make Wire Gem Trees  
Instructions by Shirley Allen. Bring stone for base. The charge will be about \$8.00 for materials & instructions. You will have a finished gem tree.

Friday, Nov. 9, 1979  
Rock polishing



## Calendar of Events

- Nov. 2 Club Board Meeting  
at Bob & Kathy Miller's  
house.
- Nov. 16-18 Fort Wayne Lapidary  
Guild Inc. Show, Speedway  
Exchange Bldg., Fort  
Wayne, Ind.
- Nov. 25 Regular Meeting. Slide  
program, "Beginning  
Lapidary"
- Dec. 9 Club Christmas Party  
at the Pinhook Park  
Pavillion, South Bend,  
Ind. 12:00 to 5:00  
PM, EST.

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There will not be an educational meeting on Nov. 23rd, the Friday after Thanksgiving.

FROM YOUR ROCKY LEADER

Congratulations to all of you Michiana Rock and Gem Club Members. This year's Show was by far the biggest, the greatest and the most enjoyable Show that this Club has ever held.

The enthusiasm of the Membership in their willingness to help with the set up and take down, assisting the dealers, working during the Show, was more than any show chairman could have asked for. My thanks to all of you. The various chairpeople did an excellent job.

It is this type of cooperation that makes any show a success. It is true that we had a few problems but what show does not. Some of you came to me with suggestions on how to improve on this for next year's show. Now when we start picking Chairpeople for our 1980 Show, which will be soon, and I call upon you, do not say "NO" - say "YES, I WILL BE GLAD TO". We need your help and your ideas.

Probably two of the most important parts of any show are the displays and the dealers. We had twelve of the best dealers for a variety of products. The 45 Club Member displays were great, the 5 Junior Club Member cases were great as were the 5 special exhibits. I would like to see more club members and junior members displaying at our next show. Speaking of displays, I would like to once more congratulate all the trophy winners: Bob Miller for the Best of Show for a fine display, Bill Crull for 1st place in Club Cases, a very educational display, the Heineks for 2nd with their beautiful wood display, Jess Wise for 3rd place on his polished cabs set in mountings. How about those Junior Members. Robin Miller, 1st place for her gem tree, Lori Kussell, 2nd place for her mineral and crystal display. I wish that I could mention everyone who displayed at the show as trophy winners.

Well, so much for the show for this year, and on to things to come.

The first thing coming up is our nominations for office this month. Please understand that this will be the nominations as selected by the Nominating Committee. Nominations from the floor and the election of officers will be done in November. The second thing is our annual Christmas Party on December 9th. Let's be thinking of what we can do to make it better than ever. The third thing is our 1980 Show to be held on September 12, 13 and 14th. We will discuss the above items at our future meetings.

I'm looking forward to seeing you Friday, October 26th, when we all learn how to make a gem tree, and Sunday, October 28th at our meeting.

Your Rocky Leader,

Jim

OUR VISITORS

We were pleased to have the following as our guests at our September meeting and hope that they will visit us again soon:

Harold Crull  
Alvin Porter  
Carol Nickert  
Gertrude Marti  
Carol McCormick  
Mark Needleman  
Grace Henderson

THANK YOU!

To all those who both contributed material and worked at the Kiddies Corner, I would like to give my thanks.

It took a lot of work for all those dimes but also gave a bright spot for a lot of kids, (both young and old).

Thanks to all.

Bob Miller

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MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

The meeting was called to order September 23, 1979, by President Russell. A motion was made by Joe Charles to dispense with the reading of the minutes, seconded by Mary Miller, motion carried. The treasurer's report with the financial statement from May 23, 1979 to September 23, 1979 was read and approved for audit.

Program - At the October meeting Harriet George will talk to the club and give us a better understanding of competitive displays and what is required of our club for the 1981 show. President Russell urges everyone to come.

Education - On the 4th Friday of October Shirley Allen of the Duneland Rock and Gem Club will teach us some basics on wire wrapped trees during the educational meeting.

Publicity - Sherry Kussell was dissatisfied with some of the local sources of advertising regarding the publicity for the 1979 Show.

Editor - Fred Niebauer is looking forward for the members to start sending him articles on some of their vacation travels, rocky or otherwise.

Sunshine - Pauline Kelsheimer sent out cards to the McHughs, Niebauers, Paul Godollei, Irene Ungurait and flowers to Mr. & Mrs. Tisdale.

Membership - Ossie Kytta had Pres. Russell read the names of the new members that joined during the Sept. Show. Welcome!

Scholarship - Katie Grayckowski explained the scholarship fund to the new members and how our club helps contribute toward it.

Show Committee Reports - Pres. Kussell thanked the club members for helping with the show. He then read the finance report of what we made at the show and what was paid out. Members had comments on how good this year's show was and the improvement having it at Notre Dame. We are going to look into a silver-smith supplier for the coming show. Suggestions to make the show even better next year were: having tickets made up ahead to sell before the show, a better placement of

MINUTES (CON'T)

signs, more signs and better lighting. Applause was given to Lori Russell for the dealer signs she made. Pres. Russell will send our ad to the Lapidary Journal in Oct. for the 1980 Show. Advice was asked on the flyer for next year, possibly to drop the theme. It was voted the Show Committee members decide and they dropped it. Max Cripe suggested we might list the dealers names on the flyer and Marie Crull recommended that the Chamber of Commerce send a flyer to various papers so they can be informed when people want to know of activities in this area. Jim Russell will get together with Bob Heinek on the 1981 flyer so they will be ready with Merl Lechlitner's slides for the club booth at the Lincoln, Neb. show next year. Help is being asked to man the club booth during the time of that show, June 12-15. Pres. Russell appointed Donald & Norma Cope to be host & hostess of the State Directors Meeting of the 1981 Show.

New Business - Merl Lechlitner recommended members to read June Culp Zeitner's article in the Sept. issue of Lapidary Journal "Mine Safety Act Closes Field Areas". "Rocks & Minerals" was also put out for display. It is a new bi-monthly magazine. Pres. Russell asked Max Cripe & Ossie Kytta to help on the floor layout of the 1981 Show.

Program - Fran Twitchell gave a slide and talk show of her weeks land and sea vacation in Baha, Mex. It was a very well put on and enjoyable program.

Birthdays - The club extends best wishes and birthday greetings to Merl Lechlitner, Becky Morriscal & Harold Crull - also Anniversary congratulations to Ossie & Josephine Kytta and Donald & Norma Cope.

Door prizes were won by Gertrude Marti, Jane Kile, Marie Crull, Ann Metheny, Thelma Monaghan and Carol Lacy. Joe Charles made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Lori Russell. Attendance -35 members, 7 guests. Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Miller, Secretary

TALK GIVEN TO MARSHALL SCHOOL

Once again some members of the Michiana Rock and Gem Club appeared before seventy 5th & 6th grade Marshall students to help them with their study of rocks and minerals.

Frank Elwell, Larry McHugh, Molly Elwell and Kathy Miller used one hour on Friday, October 5th talking to the children. Frank was the spokesman. Starting with the fossil age and working into minerals, their uses, jewelry and lapidary itself using specimens, displays and written information, he gave a very informative talk. Larry during that time quietly went to each child, identifying the rocks they had been asked to bring to school for identification. After Frank's talk, Molly and Kathy gave the children and teachers some information on the Michiana Rock and Gem Club, its function and purpose. As the students were leaving, they were given time to be able to see and touch the specimens, look at the displays and ask questions of our club members. The club cases were left for the few remaining weeks of study on this subject and Marshall Elementary School has extended an invitation to the Michiana Rock and Gem Club to come back again next year.

Kathy Miller

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a welcome to the following new members to our club and hope they will have as much fun as we have had.

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Anders (Jerilyn)  
Joanne, Lara and Curtis Anders  
Kurt Eberhardt  
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Finley (Vivian)  
Eleanor Leming  
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Metheny (Ann)  
Eric Metheny  
Mr. & Mrs. Lionel Micinski (Delphine)  
Becky Morrival  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Morrival (Jo)

NEW FEE AREA AT MAGNET COVE ARKANSAS

Collectors are happy about the opening of a 30 acre field at Magnet Cove, near Hot Springs, Arkansas. Operator of the fee collecting site is Mrs. Earl Arthur, who with her husband had guided clubs and students over the area for several years.

Open only on Sundays during this trial run period, the area is known for many unusual minerals, but the Arthur property is visited chiefly for its garnets of several colors, some of gem quality.

Kimzeyite, the black zirconium garnet was discovered at Magnet Cove. Other minerals are apatite, brookite, idocrase, molybednite, biotite, magnetite, monticellite, pyrite, perovskite, natrolite, sodalite, calcite and quartz. Possible new species from the area are being studied.

Not far from several good Arkansas quartz localities, the newly opened site adds to the reputation of Arkansas for field collectors, joining a list which includes probably the most famous fee area in the United States, the diamond mine at Murfreesboro.

From Sept. 1979 AFMS Newsletter

HINT

Windshield wiper blades tend to dry out and their efficiency is decreased. Wipe the blades with a cloth dipped in lacquer thinner; it acts as a mild solvent on composition rubber.

Do it twice a year and the wipers should last for the life of the car.

From Mineral Memos  
Via The Burro, Rockhound Record and  
River Currents

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PLEASE help keep America Beautiful!  
DON'T LITTER

# Midwest Federations NEWSLETTER

Published monthly except July and August as a service to member clubs. All news, articles, subscription orders and requests for information should be sent to the Editor, Haydon Peterson, Parrot Printing, 2125 Forest Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50311

**RESIDENT**  
Mrs. Betty Crawford  
1119 Seminole Ave.  
Mansfield, OH 44906

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**  
Mrs. Bernice McCloskey  
P.O. Box 527  
Elm Grove, WI 53122

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**  
Milford J. Sharp  
3901 W. 210th St.  
Fairview Park, OH 44126

**SECRETARY**  
Miss Jean Reynolds  
107 Tuttle Ave.  
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

**TREASURER**  
Otto Ensminger  
229 E. Madison St.  
Lombard, IL 60148



October 1979 - Issue No. 179

## I-80 to Lincoln in '80

It is not too soon to start planning for the next American Federation Show, which is also the Midwest Federation show, and will be hosted for the second time by the Lincoln Gem and Mineral Club, Inc. of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Well located near the center of the nation, Lincoln is the Capital of Nebraska and home of the University of Nebraska with its exceptional museum. The show will be held in the spacious new Bob Devaney Sports Center, and the elegant Nebraska Center has been chosen for meetings and special events.

The enthusiastic Lincoln members are already planning new educational and fun features for the big show including seminars and symposiums on all favorite aspects of the hobby. The Hall of States will be a highlight, along with displays from top museums, collectors, and artists. A swap area and an auction for the AFMS Scholarship fund are planned.

Demonstrations will include faceting, silversmithing, polishing, tumbling, wire work, sand pouring, fossil preparation, casting, glass blowing, micromounting, and all aspects of the hobby. Manufacturers will demonstrate the newest and best in equipment. A representative group of retail and wholesale dealers are being selected.

Slide programs, films and lectures will be by well known writers, curators, field collectors, educators, importers and artists. Committees are already planning special events such as the awards banquet.

Show Chairman, Howard Taylor, says that several excellent surprises will be in store for visitors to the show, which is scheduled for June 12-15.

Plenty of nearby camping space is available, and there are many fine motels conveniently located to the show building. Lincoln is served by Amtrak, by major airlines, and by America's popular super highway, Interstate 80.

## YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED

Midwest State Director for Wisconsin, Bill Parch, announced at Columbus, that an amendment has been introduced to the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act. The MSHA of 1977 has cut off most of the gravel and stone quarries to our members, adversely affecting our entire hobby. The amendment, "H.R. 1603", if passed would exempt stone, sand and gravel operations from provisions of MSHA, which was originally to have been only for coal mines and underground mines. Several quarries have asked for our support of the amendment.

Backed by a large number of Congressional sponsors, from many states, the amendment might restore our collecting privileges. Everyone interested in field trips should write his congressmen supporting this amendment. (Families and friends should write too.) Individual letters should be polite and limited to the one subject. The more letters we send, the better our chance of reversing this legislation which has restricted our activities.

## MIDWEST AND OHIO CLUB WIN AFMS AWARDS IN TAMPA

At the National Show in Tampa special awards were given for the society and for the Federation which had the most competitive displays, with the exception of the host Eastern Federation.

The Midwest Federation won the American Federation's \$100 award for the most competitive displays and the Roehm Geology Club, Berea, Ohio won the \$100 award for having the most

## 4 CLUBS ADVANCE IN SCHOLARSHIP STANDINGS

*By Katharine Steinbrenner, Scholarship Chairman*

During the month following the beautiful and successful Columbus Show and Convention last July, almost \$500 has been contributed to the Scholarship Foundation from ten Midwest Federation Clubs. Through their generous checks the following clubs have advanced their Scholarship Status:

Peru Rocks and Minerals Club 3100%, McDonnell-Douglas Gem & Mineral Society 600%, Lapeer County Gem & Mineral Society 600%, Little Crow Lapidary and Mineral Society 100%

At the Council Meeting in Columbus it was decided to have our second Scholarship Auction at the Midwest-National Show in 1980 in Lincoln, Nebraska. More details on this will be given at a later date. It is not too early to put aside specimens, cabachons or jewelry for your club to bring to this auction. It is an easy way for your club to advance their Scholarship Status.

displays from a single club.

At Columbus, Ohio during the Midwest Show and Convention, the Board of Directors of the Midwest voted to give the Midwest's \$100 award to the Roehm Geology Club since it was thru their efforts that the Midwest had received their \$100 award.

The Roehm Geology Club has advised the Midwest that they will use the \$200 toward the purchase of a microscope.

**SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT....  
DRIVE WITH CARE EVERYWHERE**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS NEEDED EARLY AS POSSIBLE

Because the MWF Directory is distributed early in March the Calendar of Events should contain listings from March 1980 through AT LEAST March 1981. We are glad to list your club's show, swap, auction, field trip or other event. Because we want the 1980-81 Calendar to be as complete as possible, we ask your help now. As soon as your dates are set, let us know the following:

Event (if show, competitive or non-competitive displays?), Dates (Time to meet, if trip), Place, and Chairman or person to contact for further information.

If your event is scheduled for January through April, give us the 1981 information too. If the exact date isn't known, but the event is generally at the same time each year, something like "early March" or "usually 3rd weekend in February" can be used.

Send your dates directly to Diane Dare, Directory Chairman, 747 E. Blackford Ave., Evansville, IN 47713, or Calendar Chairman, Elsie Popejoy, 410 Grant St., Normal, IL 61761.

## MIDWEST NOW HAS OFFICIAL MAGAZINE

At the Council Meeting at Columbus a unanimous vote made "Rocks and Minerals" the official magazine of the Midwest Federation. Published in Washington D.C. by Heldref Publications, the magazine, founded by Peter Vodac over 50 years ago, is also the official magazine of the Eastern Federation.

Marie Huizing of Cincinnati is Managing Editor and is assisted by an impressive staff of executive and contributing editors. The by-monthly magazine has feature articles about minerals, rocks, fossils, gems and geology, and regular features such as mineral localities. Subscriptions are \$10.00 per year. The address is 4000 Albemarle St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016.

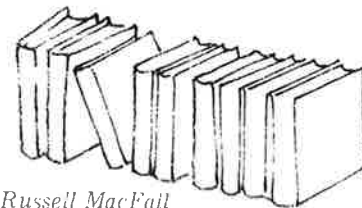
Previously the Midwest Federation was represented by the "Earth Science Magazine", published by ESCONI Associates of the Chicago area, with Mary Cornwell as Editor. However several years ago the affiliation was dropped when Dr. Richard Pearl purchased the magazine and moved it headquarters to Colorado Springs. Dr. Ben Hur Wilson founder of the Midwest Federation and it's honorary president was once Editor of "Earth Science".

Marie plans a special Official Show Issue for the Midwest-American Federation show and convention at Lincoln, Nebraska next summer. Rocks and Minerals was represented by a booth at the show at Columbus, and Mrs. Huizing appeared at meetings to answer questions. The Midwest looks forward to a long and useful affiliation with "Rocks and Minerals".

## OPERATIONS MANUAL

The new Operations Manual for the Executive Committee of the Midwest Federation has been completed and is being distributed by mail to Officers, Committee Chairmen and State Directors and assistants who did not get their copies at the meeting in Columbus. Clubs which have any questions about operations procedures, such as bidding for shows, for example, should see their State Directors or Assistant for their club. The President of a society may write for a copy for his club if desired. They are available through the Director of Supplies. Copies are considered Federation property and not individual property and so are passed on to new officers, chairmen, directors, and appropriate permanent club officials if the club has a copy.

## BOOKS



By Russell MacFail

This occasional column in the Newsletter has been reviewing books about minerals for some time; perhaps it is time now to get it out of the rut. So it will mention this time Francis E. Wylie's **Tides and the Pull of the Moon**, published by the Stephen Greene Press of Brattleboro, Vt.

Most of us know less about the oceans and their tides than about any other aspect of physical geology. Yet these forces, powered by the attraction of the moon and sun, have a complex and major influence on life on this planet. Wylie explains the vocabulary of the science in his preliminary chapters, then gives a detailed account of the causes of the coastal storms that have ravaged the continent periodically, the nature of tsunamis, often called tidal waves, and the little-known pull of the moon and sun on the body of the earth itself and its atmosphere.

In later chapters he studies the influence of tides on marine life, the fish and shellfish; the tides that baffled Caesar's invasion of Britain and were a major problem in planning the invasion of France in World War II. Finally he speaks about tidal power and its problematical future.

So far as this reviewer knows, no one has brought these subjects to the laymen as well as Wylie. He was well prepared for the task as a former Time and Life magazine correspondent and later public relations director for Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is a coastal dweller at Hingham, Mass. The book has 24 pages and the price is \$12.95.

A small pamphlet on rocks and minerals of Minnesota may be had from the Minnesota Department of Economic Development, 480 Cedar St., St. Paul, Minn. 55101. It is free.

## HEART ATTACK FATAL TO OHIO ASSISTANT STATE DIRECTOR

J. Robert "Bob" Little, one of our Assistant State Directors for Ohio died of a heart attack suffered August 25. He was a member of the Licking County Rock and Mineral Society of Newark, Ohio.

## LEARN AS YOU COLLECT

By Jack La Fleur

President, Golden Spike Gem and Mineral, Ogden, Utah

Mineral identification (especially to new members) has long been a problem. In my book though, to be a successful rockhound, you don't have to know the names of all rocks. You only need to know and identify the rocks you come in contact with, or plan to use or acquire. This certainly narrows it down. In other words, if you like a certain rock and want to acquire it, first find out what it is and where it comes from, and just a bit about its make up, such as color, hardness and cleavage or chipping characteristics. This way, you will not forget its essentials. If you pick up a strange rock, apply the same treatment. You're simply building a mineral vocabulary as you go along. As time goes by, you not only will know what every rock is in your possession, but you will also know how to treat them and what you can do with them. Soon, the problem of identification will disappear because you will have learned as you go.